

Senate District M Senator

Jim Cooper, Registered Democrat



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PLACE OF BIRTH: Oakland, CA

SPOUSE'S NAME: widowed

CHILDREN'S NAMES: David, Eric, Jamie

OCCUPATION: retired 26 year Coast Guard veteran,
former co-owner JUST SEW fabric store Palmer, AK

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 41 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:
Douglas/Juneau 1958-63. 1972-74; Kodiak 1976-78,
1983-85,1990-93; Palmer 1995-present

EDUCATION:
Shoreline CC - AA degree; USCG Academy BS degree;
George Washington University MBA degree

MILITARY SERVICE:
US Coast Guard 1968-1994

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:
Palmer Planning and Zoning Commissioner, Palmer
City Council, Palmer Mayor, President Alaska
Municipal League

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:
Co-owner JUST SEW fabric store, Palmer; Chairman
Palmer Economic Development Authority, President
Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:
Disabled American Veterans, Ducks Unlimited, Rocky
Mountain Elk Foundation, Chamber of Commerce,
Palmer Community Foundation

STATEMENT:
I've always believed in public service - not politics. The
Coast Guard taught me how to be a public servant, how
to serve the people. As Mayor of Palmer and President
of the Alaska Municipal League, I built consensus and
did what was best for all. Divisive politics stand in the
way of meaningful progress. Alaskans need leaders
who are team builders, leaders who listen to them and
do what is right. Alaskans don't wake in the morning
thinking they are Republican or Democrat - that's
what politicians do. Alaskans wake up wondering if
they have enough money for food, mortgage, gas,
medicines; whether their children will get sick or
bullied at school, will the car start, do I still have a job?
Elected officials need to realize these issues affect
ALL Alaskans - NOT just the ones who voted for them.
Here are a few issues I promise to tackle head-on for
all Alaskans:

- 1.A fully functional, balanced budget that doesn't
starve our children's education and ability to stay in
Alaska.
- 2.Restoring Alaska's historical share from oil
companies to ensure a balanced budget AND a fully
funded PFD.
- 3.Getting State and local control over OUR
resources - fisheries, forestry, and minerals.
- 4.Stopping any legislation that even hints of
discrimination: gender, ethnic, age, disability, religion,
sexual orientation, women's rights.

These issues demand leaders willing to stick with it
and address all the things that matter to regular people
and be willing to work for ALL Alaskans.

*The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and not endorsed by the Division of Elections.
The text of this statement was provided and paid for by the candidate in accordance with AS 15.58.030 and 6 AAC 25.690.*